First Article and Production Lot Testing Process Flowchart

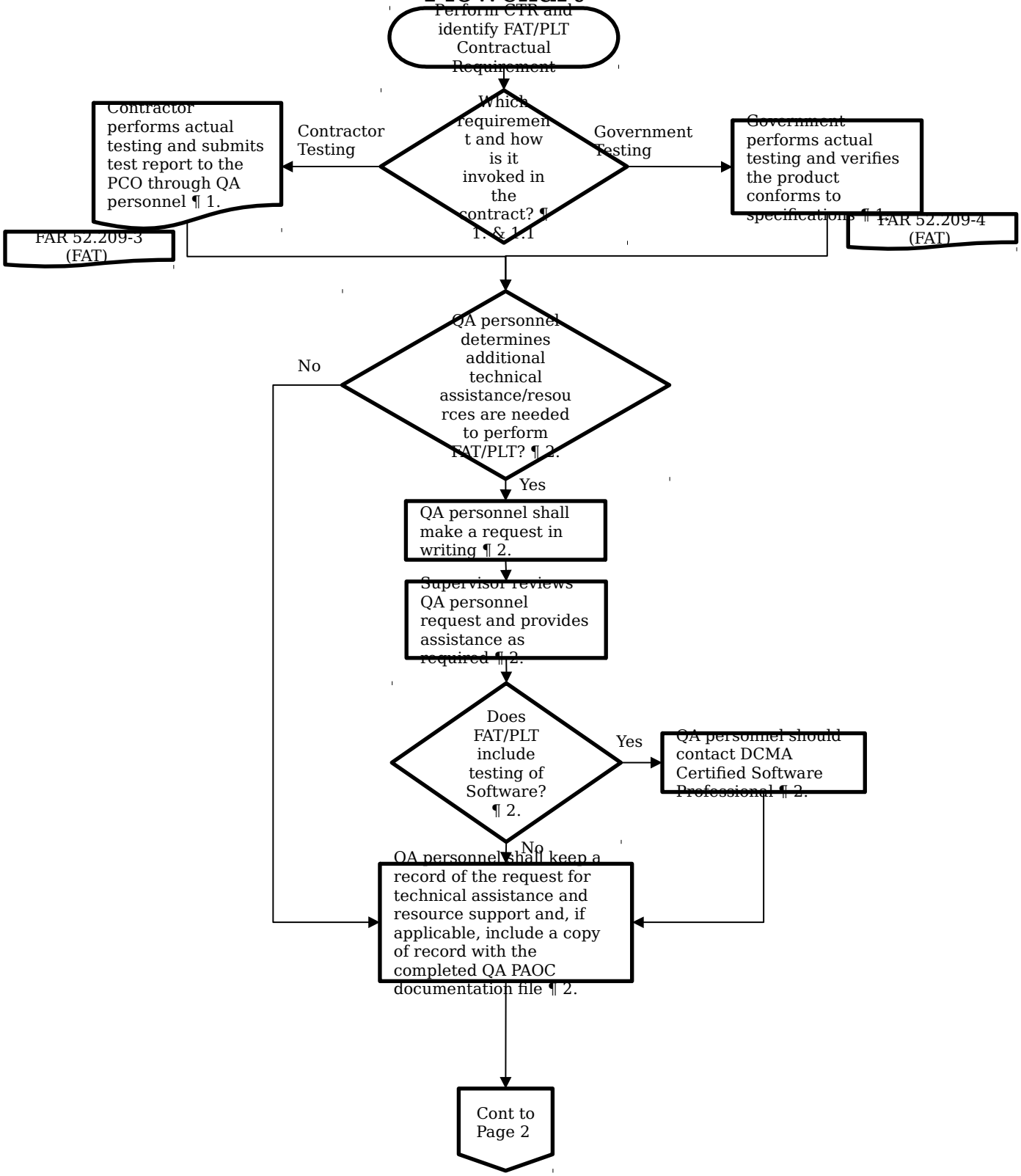
Perform CTR and identify FAT/PLT Contractual Requirement
Which Requirement and how is it invoked in the contract? ¶ 1. & 1.1
Contractor Testing
Government Testing
Contractor performs actual testing and submits test report to the PCO through QA personnel ¶ 1.
Government performs actual testing and verifies the product conforms to specifications ¶ 1.
FAR 52.209-3 (FAT)
FAR 52.209-4 (FAT)
QA personnel determines additional technical assistance/resources are needed to perform FAT/PLT? ¶ 2.
No
Yes
QA personnel shall make a request in writing ¶ 2.
Supervisor reviews QA personnel request and provides assistance as required ¶ 2.
Does FAT/PLT include testing of Software? ¶ 2.
Yes
QA personnel should contact DCMA Certified Software Professional ¶ 2.
No
QA personnel shall keep a record of the request for technical assistance and resource support and, if applicable, include a copy of record with the completed QA PAOC documentation file ¶ 2.
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Figure 1.

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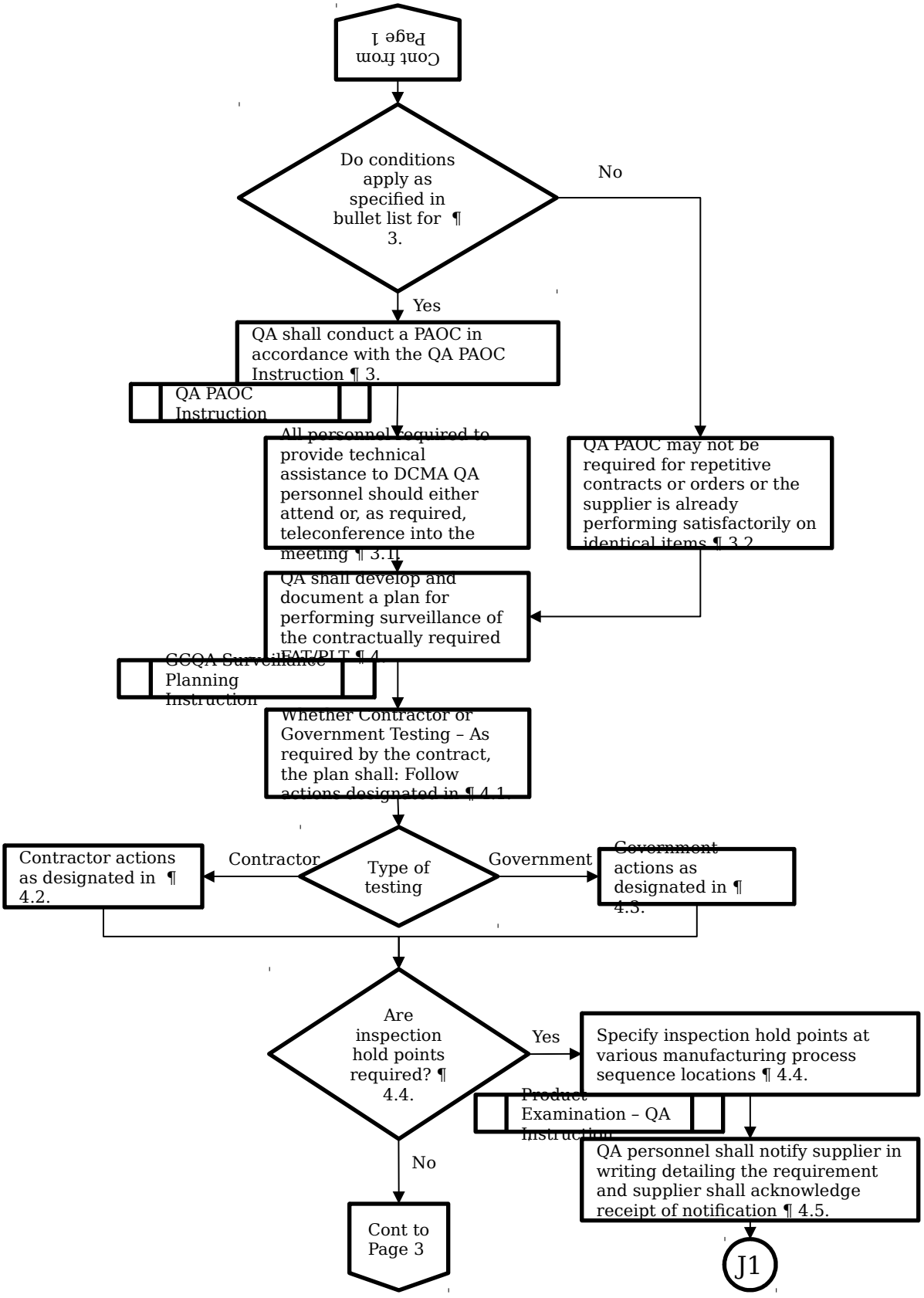
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Do conditions apply as specified in bullet list for ¶ 3.
No
Yes
QA shall conduct a PAOC in accordance with the QA PAOC Instruction ¶ 3.
QA PAOC Instruction
All personnel required to provide technical assistance to DCMA QA personnel should either attend or, as required, teleconference into the meeting ¶ 3.1.
QA PAOC may not be required for repetitive contracts or orders or the supplier is already performing satisfactorily on identical items ¶ 3.2.
QA shall develop and document a plan for performing surveillance of the contractually required FAT/PLT ¶ 4.
GCQA Surveillance Planning Instruction
Whether Contractor or Government Testing – As required by the contract, the plan shall: Follow actions designated in ¶ 4.1.
Contractor actions as designated in ¶ 4.2.
Contractor
Type of testing
Government
Government actions as designated in ¶ 4.3.
Are inspection hold points required? ¶ 4.4.
Yes
Specify inspection hold points at various manufacturing process sequence locations ¶ 4.4.
Product Examination – QA Instruction
QA personnel shall notify supplier in writing detailing the requirement and supplier shall acknowledge receipt of notification ¶ 4.5.
J1
No
Cont to Page 3

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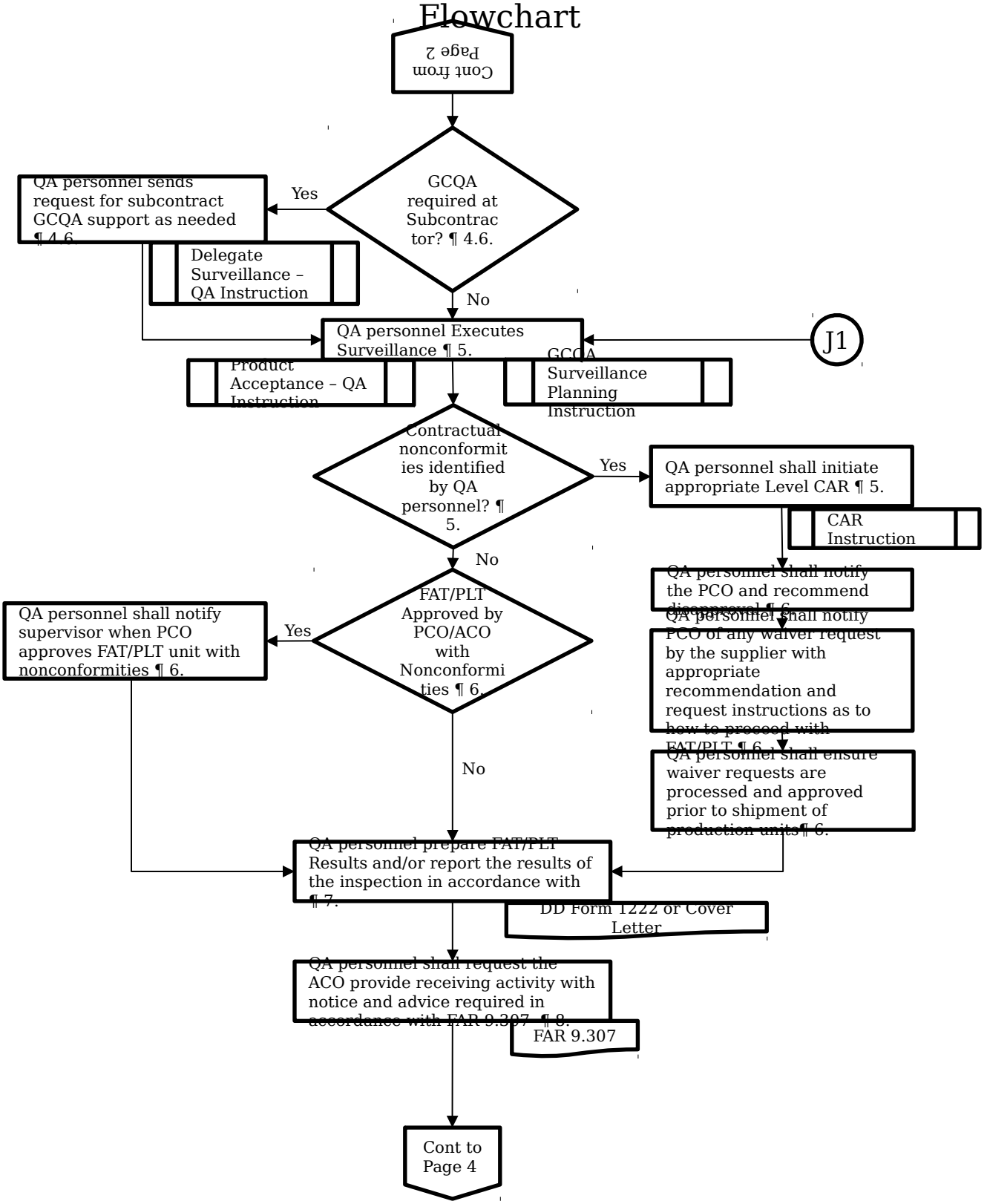
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GCQA required at Subcontractor? ¶ 4.6.
Yes
QA personnel sends request for subcontract GCQA support as needed ¶ 4.6.
Delegate Surveillance – QA Instruction
No
J1
QA personnel Executes Surveillance ¶ 5.
Product Acceptance – QA Instruction
GCQA Surveillance Planning Instruction
Contractual nonconformities identified by QA personnel? ¶ 5.
Yes
QA personnel shall initiate appropriate Level CAR ¶ 5.
CAR Instruction
No
FAT/PLT Approved by PCO/ACO with Nonconformities ¶ 6.
Yes
QA personnel shall notify supervisor when PCO approves FAT/PLT unit with nonconformities ¶ 6.
QA personnel shall notify the PCO and recommend disapproval ¶ 6.
QA personnel shall notify PCO of any waiver request by the supplier with appropriate recommendation and request instructions as to how to proceed with FAT/PLT ¶ 6.
QA personnel shall ensure waiver requests are processed and approved prior to shipment of production units¶ 6.
No
QA personnel prepare FAT/PLT Results and/or report the results of the inspection in accordance with ¶ 7.
DD Form 1222 or Cover Letter
QA personnel shall request the ACO provide receiving activity with notice and advice required in accordance with FAR 9.307 ¶ 8.
FAR 9.307
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Figure 1.

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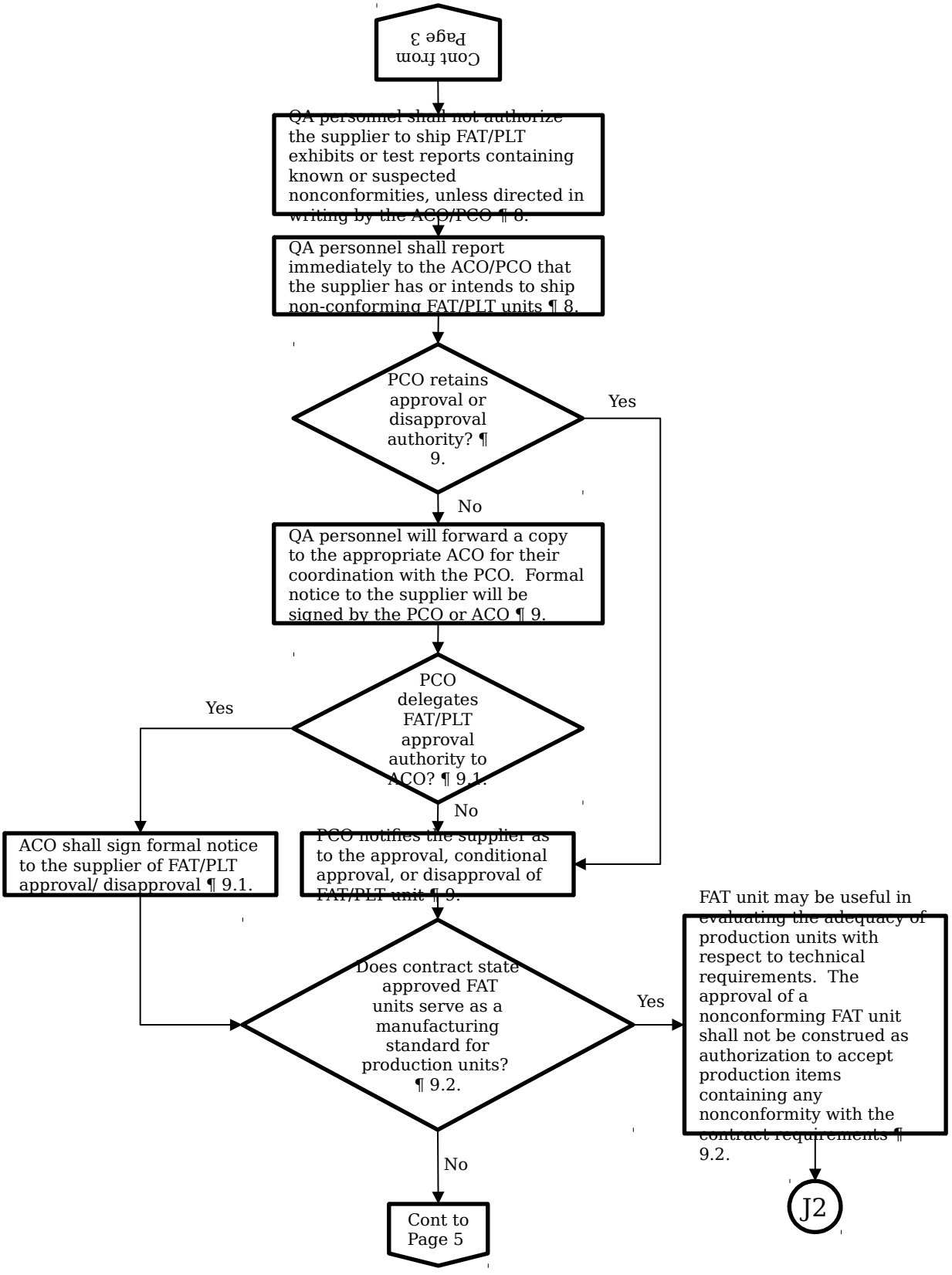
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QA personnel shall not authorize the supplier to ship FAT/PLT exhibits or test reports containing known or suspected nonconformities, unless directed in writing by the ACO/PCO ¶ 8.
QA personnel shall report immediately to the ACO/PCO that the supplier has or intends to ship non-conforming FAT/PLT units ¶ 8.
PCO retains approval or disapproval authority? ¶ 9.
Yes
No
QA personnel will forward a copy to the appropriate ACO for their coordination with the PCO. Formal notice to the supplier will be signed by the PCO or ACO ¶ 9.
PCO delegates FAT/PLT approval authority to ACO? ¶ 9.1.
Yes
No
ACO shall sign formal notice to the supplier of FAT/PLT approval/ disapproval ¶ 9.1.
PCO notifies the supplier as to the approval, conditional approval, or disapproval of FAT/PLT unit ¶ 9.
Does contract state approved FAT units serve as a manufacturing standard for production units? ¶ 9.2.
Yes
FAT unit may be useful in evaluating the adequacy of production units with respect to technical requirements. The approval of a nonconforming FAT unit shall not be construed as authorization to accept production items containing any nonconformity with the contract requirements ¶ 9.2.
J2
No
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Figure 1.

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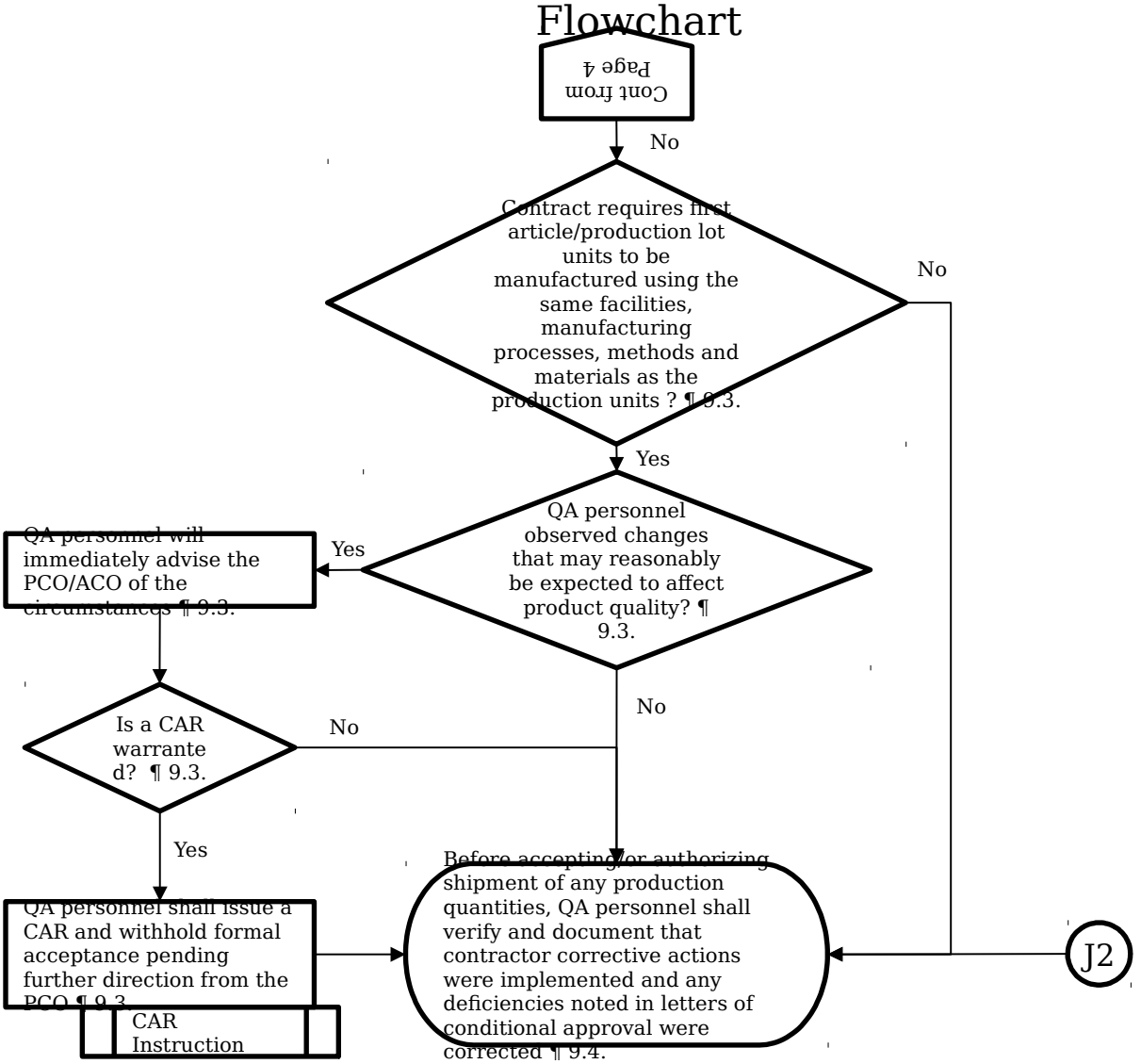
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No
Contract requires first article/production lot units to be manufactured using the same facilities, manufacturing processes, methods and materials as the production units ? ¶ 9.3.
No
Yes
QA personnel observed changes that may reasonably be expected to affect product quality? ¶ 9.3.
Yes
QA personnel will immediately advise the PCO/ACO of the circumstances ¶ 9.3.
No
Is a CAR warrante d? ¶ 9.3.
Yes
QA personnel shall issue a CAR and withhold formal acceptance pending further direction from the PCO ¶ 9.3.
CAR Instruction
Before accepting/or authorizing shipment of any production quantities, QA personnel shall verify and document that contractor corrective actions were implemented and any deficiencies noted in letters of conditional approval were corrected ¶ 9.4.
J2

Figure 1.